Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 STATE 043776

66
ORIGIN IO-03

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 NEA-01 /005 R

66631
DRAFTED BY: IO/ HDC E P NOZIGLIA
APPROVED BY: IO/ HDC E P NOZIGLIA
NEA/ ARP B WRAMPELMEIR (PHONE)
---------- 014040
R 091922 Z MAR 73
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO USMISSION GENEVA

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 043776

FOLLOWING SENT SECSTATE WASHDC INFO ANKARA BEIRUT TEHRAN
ISLAMABAD PARIS KABUL FROM JIDDA 08 MAR 73:

QUOTE JIDDA 0959

BEIRUT, ANKARA FOR BNDD

PARIS FOR CUSTOMS

E. O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: SNAR, IR, SA, AF, PK
SUBJECT: ILLICIT NARCOTICS TRAFFIC

REF : JIDDA 0884 (NOTAL)

SUMMARY: BNDD REP MILLER AND CUSTOMS REP KNIERIM COMPLETED
WEEK- LONG TOUR OF SAUDI ARABIA. HAVE CONCLUDED THERE NO
GROWTH OR MANUFACTURING PROBLEM, MINIMAL LOCAL ABUSE
(AND THAT PRIMARILY AMONG FOREIGNERS), AND NO EVIDENCE
OF ANY SIGNIFICANT TRANSIT ACTIVITIES; IT CLEAR TO THEM
HOWEVER THAT SAUDI ARABIAN GOVERNMENT (SAG) NARCOTICS
CONTROL FACILITIES MINIMAL. MILLER AND KNIERIM WERE IM-
PRESSED WITH AID/ OPS ADVISORY EFFORTS AND ENCOURAGED ABOUT SAG
PLANS FOR FUTURE. END SUMMARY.

1. TWO- MAN TEAM FOUND NO EVIDENCE THAT ANY NARCOTICS,
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005

Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005

INCLUDING PILLS, AMPHETAMINES, HASHISH, OPIATES, ETC., ARE EITHER LOCALLY GROWN OR MANUFACTURED. ALL NARCOTICS IN SAUDI ARABIA THEY CONCLUDE COME FROM ABROAD, WITH POSSIBLE EXCEPTION OF MINIMAL AND UNIMPORTANT AMOUNTS OF QAT, A VERY MILD NARCOTIC WHICH MAY BE GROWN FOR LOCAL CONSUMPTION IN MOUNTAINOUS ASIR REGIONS NEAR YEMENI BORDER.

2. IT EVIDENT TOO THAT, BECAUSE OF RELIGIOUS STRICTURES AND STRENGTH OF FAMILY STRUCTURE, AS WELL AS STRICT LEGAL PROHIBITION, USE OF NARCOTICS BY NON- WESTERNIZED ARAB POPULATION, IS VIRTUALLY NIL. LONG DISTANCE TRUCK DRIVERS MAY OCCASIONALLY USE PEP PILLS, BUT TO EXTENT THERE EXISTS ANY LOCAL ABUSE PROBLEM, IT CONFINED ALMOST EXCLUSIVELY TO AMERICANS AND FOREIGNERS, EXPECIALLY STUDENTS STUDYING ABROAD, AND FEW YOUNGER WESTERNIZED SAUDIS WHO MAY HAVE DEVELOPED TASTE IN U . S., EUROPE OR LEBANON. TEAM NOTED OF ONLY FORTY ARRESTS ON NARCOTICS CHARGES DURING 1972, NINE HAD BEEN FOREIGNERS.

3. ALTHOUGH AID/ OPS CHIEF NESBITT FELT, AS RESULT HIS RECENT TRIP TO AFGHANISTAN, PAKISTAN AND IRAN, THERE WAS SIGNIFICANT TRANSIT OF HASHISH AND OPIUM FROM THOSE AREAS THROUGH PERSIAN GULF TO TRUCIAL STATES AND THENCE OVERLAND THROUGH EASTERN SAUDI ARABIA, TEAM FOUND NO DIRECT EVIDENCE ON THEIR SAUDI TOUR TO SUPPORT THIS BELIEF. TEAM NOTED CUSTOMS OFFICERS AND FRONTIER FORCE PATROLS ARE NOT EFFECTIVE ENOUGH TO PREVENT SUCH MOVEMENT WHERE IT TAKING PLACE, BUT ON OTHER HAND, THEY COULD SEE NO RATIONALE FOR MOVEMENT IN THIS DIRECTION; NOR DID THEY BELIEVE, WERE NARCOTICS INDEED MOVING FROM SOUTH ASIA TO LEBANON AND MEDITERRANEAN WOULD IT GO OVERLAND THROUGH SAUDI ARABIA RATHER THAN DIRECTLY UP PERSIAN GULF TO KUWAIT OR IRAQ. (TEAM NOTED THAT OTHER BNDD AND CUSTOMS AGENTS CURRENTLY UNDERTAKING SEPARATE PERSIAN GULF SURVEY WHICH WILL NO DOUBT GIVE MORE COMPLETE DETAILS ON SMUGGLING IN THAT AREA.) ADDITIONALLY, TEAM REPORTED THERE HAVE INDEED BEEN VARIOUS HASHISH AND OPIUM SEIZURES BUT TOTAL FOR 1972 WAS NO MORE THAN 60 GRAMS OPIUM AND 50 KILOS OF HASHISH. TEAM BELIEVES THAT IF LARGE- SCALE SMUGGLING WERE OCCURRING IN EASTERN REGION, AT LEAST ONE SIZEABLE SHIPMENT WOULD HAVE COME TO LIGHT.

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

4. ONLY TIME WHEN SAUDI ARABIA WOULD APPEAR TO BE USED

Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005

Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005

AS TRANSIT POINT FOR NARCOTICS IS DURING HAJJ
SEASON, WHEN INFLUX OF MORE THAN HALF MILLION FOREIGNERS PRO-
VIDES OPPORTUNITY FOR SMALL- SCALE IMPORTATION AND LOCAL
SALES. LOCAL PUBLIC SECURITY OFFICE IN JIDDA REPORTS
THAT MANY HAJJIS BRING IN SUFFICIENT QUANTITIES OF NAR-
COTICS TO PAY FOR TRIP. EVEN MOST OF THIS IS SOLD TO
OTHER HAJJIS FOR SUBSEQUENT EXPORTATION FROM SAUDI ARABIA.

5. IN REVIEWING ENFORCEMENT OF NARCOTICS CONTROLS,
TEAM NOTED PUBLIC SECURITY OFFICE HAD RECENTLY TAKEN
CHARGE THIS EFFORT. ADDITIONALLY, SEPARATE OFFICE UNDER
PRINCE NA' IF, DEPUTY MINISTER OF INTERIOR, HAS BEEN SET
UP TO DEAL EXCLUSIVELY WITH PROBLEM. A MAJOR JUMMA
AS BEEN PLACED IN CHARGE; MILLER AND KNIERIM FOUND HIM
EXCELLENT CHOICE. (PRINCE NA' IF HAS REQUESTED AID/ OPS
ADVISORY HELP FOR MAJ. JUMNA. AID/ OPS, FOLLOWING FORMAL
AID AND SAG CONCURRENCE, INTENDS ASSIGN FULL- TIME ADVISOR
TO THIS EFFORT.) TO DATE, AID/ OPS RIYADH HAS TRAINED
TWO CLASSES OF ABOUT 40 PUBLIC SECURITY OFFICERS, WHO NOW
POSSESS VIRTUALLY ONLY IN- COUNTRY EXPERTISE IN NARC FIELD.

6. MILLER AND KNIERIM NOTED THEY WERE ENCOURAGED, IN SPITE
OF CURRENT LACK OF NEED FOR STRONG ANTI- NARCOTICS ACTIVITIES,
BY SAG AWARENESS THAT IN NEXT FEW YEARS IT MAY GROW INTO
REAL PROBLEM. ACCORDINGLY, THEY APPLAUD EFFORTS NOW UNDER-
WAY BY SAG, AND EXCELLENT SUPPORT IT BEING PROVIDED BY AID/
OPS TEAM, HEADED BY CHARLES NESBITT. THEY IN PARTICULAR CONGRATULATE
NESBITT ON PLACING NARCOTICS ADVISOR AT RIGHT HAND OF MINISTRY
OF INTERIOR AUTHORITIES, WHILE ANY LOCAL DRUG PROBLEM STILL
IN ITS INFANCY. IT THEIR BELIEF SAG NOW DEVELOPING NUCLEUS
OF ANTI- NARCOTICS EFFORT WHICH WILL ENABLE IT TO CONTROL SITUATION
IN FORESEEABLE FUTURE SHOULD ABUSE OR SMUGGLING INCREASE.

7. THEY WILL NEXT COORDINATE JOINT REPORT WITH
TEAM COVERING SOUTH IRAN AND GULF PRINCIPALITIES. THEY
PLAN RETURN FOR FURTHER LOOK AS NEEDED, PERHAPS AFTER
YEAR OR 18 MONTHS. THACHER UNQUOTE ROGERS

CONFIDENTIAL

*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a
*** Current Classification *** CONFIDENTIAL

Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005

Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 09 MAR 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: martinjw
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973STATE043776
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: IO/ HDC E P NOZIGLIA
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: RR
Errors: n/a
Film Number: n/a
From: SECSTATE WASHDC
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t19730326/aaaahozy.tel
Line Count: 156
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ORIGIN IO
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 73 JIDDA 0884 (NOTAL)
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: martinjw
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 26 SEP 2001
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <26-Sep-2001 by rowellE0>; APPROVED <21 FEB 2002 by martinjw>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: <DBA CORRECTED> wfs 971124
Subject: ILLICIT NARCOTICS TRAFFIC
TAGS: SNAR, AF, IR, PK, SA
To: GENEVA
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005

Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005